

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication apparatus for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the apparatus comprising:

5 first discrimination means for discriminating the destination information of said received data;

second discrimination means for discriminating the secrecy level information of said received data; and

10 control means for executing the transfer of said received data, according to the result of discrimination by said first and second discrimination means.

15 2. A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means transfers said received data with encryption, according to the discrimination by at least either of said first and second discrimination means.

20 3. A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said secrecy level information includes whether said received data are confidential data.

25 4. A communication apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said control means transfers said received data to the destination by e-mail, according to the discrimination by at least either of said first and

second discrimination means.

5 5. A communication apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said control means stores said received data
in a predetermined memory, according to the
discrimination by at least either of said first and
second discrimination means.

10 6. A communication apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said destination information includes
whether encryption information corresponding to said
destination is provided.

15 7. A communication apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said destination information includes path
information to the destination for said received data.

20 8. A communication apparatus according to claim
1, wherein said destination information includes
whether the encryption information corresponding to the
destination is within an effective period.

25 9. A communication method for transferring data
received from a first network to a second network, the
method comprising:

a first discrimination step of discriminating the
destination information of said received data;

a second discrimination step of discriminating the secrecy level information of said received data; and

a control step of executing the transfer of said received data, according to the result of
5 discrimination by said first and second discrimination steps.

10. A computer readable memory medium storing a program of a communication method for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the program comprising:

a first discrimination step of discriminating the destination information of said received data;

a second discrimination step of discriminating the
15 secrecy level information of said received data; and

a control step of executing the transfer of said received data, according to the result of discrimination by said first and second discrimination steps.

20

11. A communication apparatus for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the apparatus comprising:

discrimination means for discriminating whether
25 encryption information corresponding to the destination of said received data is present; and

control means for executing control whether to

A
transfer said received data with encryption based on
the encryption information corresponding to said
destination, ^{or} ~~en~~ to store said received data in a
predetermined memory.

5

12. A communication apparatus according to claim
11, wherein said control means transmits, to said
destination, a message indicating that said received
data are stored in a predetermined memory.

10

13. A communication apparatus according to claim
11, wherein said encryption information is acquired
from said destination.

15

14. A communication apparatus according to claim
11, wherein said control means executes said encryption
according to the secrecy level of said received data.

20

15. A communication apparatus according to claim
11, wherein said control means is adapted, upon
acquiring the encryption information from said
destination, to encrypt the received data stored in
said predetermined memory with said encryption
information and to execute transfer to said

25

destination.

16. A communication apparatus according to claim

11, wherein said control means executes said encryption according to the transfer path to said destination.

17. A communication apparatus according to claim
5 11, wherein said encryption information includes an effective period.

18. A communication apparatus according to claim
10 17, wherein the effective period of said encryption information is renewable.

19. A communication method for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the method comprising:

15 a discrimination step of discriminating whether encryption information corresponding to the destination of said received data is present; and

20 a control step of executing control whether to transfer said received data with encryption based on the encryption information corresponding to said destination, ^{or} ~~en~~ to store said received data in a predetermined memory.

20. A computer readable memory medium storing a
25 program of a communication method for transferring data received from a first network to a second network, the program comprising:

a discrimination step of discriminating whether encryption information corresponding to the destination of said received data is present; and

- 5 a control step of executing control whether to transfer said received data with encryption based on the encryption information corresponding to said destination, ^{or} ~~on~~ to store said received data in a predetermined memory.

1. A method of processing received data, comprising:
discriminating whether encryption information corresponding to a destination of the received data is present;
executing control whether to transfer the received data with encryption based on the encryption information corresponding to the destination;
or
storing the received data in a predetermined memory.